



Introduction

The Building Back Better Coalition is working for an economy that is open and accessible to all people with disabilities, including people from intersectional communities and people who have significant support needs. We cannot achieve these goals without the engagement of California's diverse disability community and our allies. Your voice matters and must be included in the conversation. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this community conversation process. We look forward to hearing about what is important to you and working together. (Please attach additional notes if needed).

Who is participating in your community conversation?

Invite participants to introduce themselves and share about the perspective they bring to this community conversation. For example, are they:

- ☐ People with disabilities
- ☐ Parents and family members
- ☐ Businesses/Employers
- ☐ Service Providers
- ☐ Policy Professionals
- ☐ Other, please specify _____

We want to make sure we receive input from the Community Conversations that reflects the diversity of California's disability community. Tell us about who is participating in your Community Conversation.

What disability communities are participating, if any?

What is the age range of people with disabilities participating? For example:

- ☐ Youth, under 18 years old
- ☐ Young adults, 18 – 25 years old
- ☐ Adults, 25 – 55 years old
- ☐ Adults 55+ years old

Do participants identify as members of other communities? For example, Black, Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQIA+, people whose native language is other than English, or other identities.

Is your group part of an organization, business or agency?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If YES which one?

Topic: Disability is a part of the human experience. People with disabilities take pride in who they are and in their communities. The Building Back Better Coalition envisions a world where all people with disabilities have opportunities to live, learn, work and participate in the same places that people without disabilities do.

Discussion Question 1: What barriers have you (or the people with disabilities in your life) experienced in accessing the things needed to prepare for employment, find a job, or participate in the workplace?

Discussion Question 2: In an ideal world, what types of supports would be available to people with disabilities to help with getting or keeping a job?

Topic: People with disabilities experience higher rates of unemployment than people without disabilities. This was especially true for Black, Indigenous and people of color with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Discussion Question 1: What do people with disabilities need to return or enter the workforce as California recovers from COVID-19?

Discussion Question 2: How can employers improve their hiring and recruitment practices to be more welcoming, inclusive and accessible?

Discussion Question 3: What can agencies, partners and service providers do to better meet the needs of disabled job seekers and employers?

Topic: The Building Back Better Coalition is working for an economy that is open and accessible to all people with disabilities, including people from intersectional communities and people who have significant support needs. Our goals include:

- Increasing labor market participation for people with disabilities.
- Closing the gap in service disparities for Black, Indigenous and communities of color.
- Ensuring people with disabilities can participate in program design, policy decisions, and California’s economic recovery efforts.
- Increasing access to a living wage for people with disabilities.
- Increasing opportunities for work-based learning from an early age.
- Increasing access to employment supports for people who need them.

Discussion Question 1: What should the Building Back Better Coalition work on over the next year to help achieve our goals?

Discussion Question 2: How can you and your community work with the Building Back Better Coalition create more equity and opportunities for people with disabilities in California?
